LIBRARY

Barnstaple Rural District.

Annual Report

— ON —

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA

VITAL STATISTICS,

SANITARY WORKS,

HOUSING, Etc.,

for the Year 1946.

BARNES, PRINTER, BARNSTAPLE.

BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

— ON —

THE HEALTH OF THE AREA.

VITAL STATISTICS,

SANITARY WORKS,

HOUSING, Etc.,

for the Year 1946.

— BY —

DR. F. J. H. MARTIN,

(M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Oxon.)

Medical Officer of Health.

— AND —

ARTHUR J. DENNIS,

(M.R.S.I., A.I.A.S.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29252404

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

THE RED HOUSE,

CASTLE STREET,

BARNSTAPLE,

August, 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to forward you the Report upon the Public Health of the Barnstaple Rural District for the year 1946.

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK MARTIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Staff.

PART TIME OFFICER.

Medical Officer of Health - DR. F. J. H. MARTIN, M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond., D.P.H. Oxon.

WHOLE TIME OFFICERS.

Chief Sanitary Inspector / Building Surveyor and Engineer } A. J. DENNIS, M.R.S.I., A.I.A.S

Additional Sanitary Inspector } A. L. SANDERS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk - - MISS P. BAWDEN.

Social Conditions.

The chief occupations of the District are :—

1. Agriculture.
2. Market Gardening.
3. Catering for Visitors.

The locality may be regarded as purely non-industrial, and employment is on the whole steady.

1946.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health for the Barnstaple Rural District.

STATISTICS.

Area (acres) - - - - -	129,346
Population, Estimated Normal - - -	21,090
,, Summer (July) - - -	28,928
Rateable Value of the District - - -	£113,772
Sum represented by a Penny Rate - -	£472
Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1946	7,003

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate -	204	189	420
Illegitimate -	15	12	

Still Births.	M.	F.	
Legitimate -	12	3	16
Illegitimate -	0	1	

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—36·6.

Birth Rate 1,000 estimated resident population—19·9.

Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales—19·1.

Deaths.

M.	F.	Total.
142	136	278

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population—13·1.

Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales—11·5.

The Table appended shows the comparative figures for Barnstaple Rural District and England and Wales :—

Rate per 1000 Population			Death Rate per 1000	Infant Mortality per 1000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births		Deaths under 1 year	Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years
Barnstaple Rural Dist	19·9	·76	13·1	23·8	0
England and Wales	19·1	·53	11·5	43	4·4

Death from Puerperal Cause.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis -	0	—
Other Puerperal Causes	0	—
Total - - -	0	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births - - - 23·8

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 Births England and Wales 43

Deaths of Infants under one year of age—

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate - -	5	5	10
Illegitimate - -	0	0	

Rate per 1,000 legitimate live birth—25·45.

Deaths from Measles at all ages - - -	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough at all ages - -	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age -	0
Deaths from Cancer at all ages - - -	34

Deaths over 65 years of age.

65-70...17	75-80...46	85-90...25
70-75...33	80-85...32	90-95... 9

Causes of Death during the Year 1946.

	Males.	Females.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System -	5	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis - -	1	0
Influenza - - - - -	1	0
Cancer of Buccal cavity and Desophagus -	6	0
Cancer of Uterus - - -	0	3
Cancer of Stomuch and Duodenum -	3	3
Cancer of Breast - - -	0	4
Cancer of other Sites - - -	17	13
Diabetes - - - - -	1	1
Intracranial vascular lesions - -	15	22
Heart Disease - - - -	43	43
Other diseases of circulatory system -	12	19
Bronchitis - - - - -	6	5
Pneumonia - - - -	2	3
Other respiratory diseases - -	1	0
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum -	1	1
Appendicitis - - - -	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases - -	1	0
Nephritis - - - - -	1	2
Premature Birth - - - -	2	2
Congenital malformation Birth Injury (Infantile Disease) - - -	2	1
Suicide - - - - -	1	1
Road Traffic Accident - - -	2	0
Other violent causes - - -	4	0
All other causes - - - -	15	11
	142	136

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals.

1 Tuberculosis.

Hawley Sanatorium, which is situated in the Borough of Barnstaple, has 28 beds.

2. Maternity Care.

The Devon County Council have made arrangements with the Barnstaple and North Devon Infirmary for the admission of women in the area requiring Institutional Provision for Maternity Care under the following conditions :—

(*a*) Those found to have some abnormal condition.

(*b*) Those having unsuitable accommodation for confinement in their own homes.

(*c*) Those suffering from puerperal fever, or pyrexia.

Consultant Services, Home Helps, and Maternity Outfits are provided in necessitous cases.

The Maternity Department of the Infirmary consists of a lying-in ward of six beds, a labour ward of one bed, and a separate sanitary annexe. The department is under the care of a Sister and a Nurse—each holding the C.M B. certificate, and one probationer—a Nurse is on duty in the ward at night.

During the year 210 cases were admitted; of the total admissions 107 were normal deliveries. There were no maternal deaths.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

There were 928 attendances during the year.

3. Isolation of Infectious Diseases.

The Bideford and District Fever Hospital is situated just outside Bideford Borough. It is of recent construction, and exceedingly well equipped in every way for the Treatment of Infectious Diseases.

It comprises 34 beds, 4 cots, and 6 observation cubicles.

During the year 1946 25 cases were admitted from the Barnstaple Rural District.

Details of Infectious Disease Cases admitted from the Barnstaple Rural District :—

Scarlet Fever - -	13
Para-Typhoid - -	6
Whooping Cough - -	3
Jaundice - - -	1
Diphtheria (proved negative) -	2
	25

4. Smallpox.

Any case of Smallpox that may arise in this area will be treated in the Smallpox Hospital of the Devon County Council.

5. General.

The Barnstaple and North Devon Infirmary serves North Devon exceptionally well in providing modern medical and surgical treatment. It is available to anyone whose circumstances are such that they are unable to afford the advantages of the excellent Nursing Homes in Barnstaple and in Braunton. Application for admission must be accompanied by a doctor's letter. Recommends are no longer required.

The hospital is recognised as a training centre for the Nursing Profession, and it contains from 110 beds, and has a most modern and up-to-date X-Ray plant.

A Blood Bank has now been established at the Infirmary.

6. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Tuberculosis and Venereal Clinics have been established at the North Devon Infirmary, where completely new Clinics have been erected. They are in charge of Dr. McMillan, Tuberculosis Officer.

V.D. Clinic.

This is held at the North Devon Infirmary.

Sessions :		Females.	Males.
Thursdays	-	4-45 p.m.	5-45 p.m.
Fridays	-	3-30 p.m.	4-30 p.m.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

Sessions : (Clinic and X-Ray Examinations).

Tuesdays - 9 a.m.-12-30 p.m. A.P. Refills 4-6 p.m.
2 p.m.-4 p-m.

Fridays - 9 a.m.-12 noon.

Cardiac and Ophthalmic Clinics have also been established at the North Devon Infirmary.

7. Professional Nursing in the Home.

The majority of our parishes have the very great advantage of the services of District Nurses. There are still a few of the smaller parishes without a Nurse's services. I have been informed by the Superintendent of the Devonshire Nursing Association that work in these parishes will be undertaken by neighbouring Nurses.

8. Midwives,

Midwives are practising in the following parishes :—
Combe Martin, Parracombe, Martinhoe, East Down, Berrynarbor, Trentishoe, Mortehoe, Georgeham, West Down, Bittadon, Braunton, Marwood, Pilton West, Shirwell, Arlington, Bratton Fleming, Stoke Rivers, Loxhore, High Bray, Challacombe, Landkey, Goodleigh, Atherington, Fremington, Westleigh, Instow, Ashford, Heanton Punchardon, and Swimbridge.

The parishes of Brendon and Countisbury are served by the Somerset County Nursing Association.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Service of the Devon County Council has a bacteriological laboratory established at 7 Dix's Field, Exeter, in charge of Dr. Moore.

This laboratory is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological investigations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients suffering from communicable diseases who are, from lack of means, unable to afford the necessary expense of having such skilled assistance.

This service is extremely valuable and has been widely used throughout our district by medical practitioners.

The laboratory also undertakes the analysis of drinking water and milk, and the examination of tubercule in milk, butter and cream.

The particulars of samples submitted will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Disinfection and Infected Bedding and Clothing.

By an arrangement with the Barnstaple Town Council all infected bedding and clothing can be disinfected in their steam disinfector.

Ambulance Facilities.

There is a St. John Ambulance stationed at Barnstaple which serves the greater part of the Rural District.

The Lynton St. John Ambulance serves the part of the area immediately surrounding Lynton and Lynmouth, including Brendon, Countisbury, Martinhoe, and Parracombe.

The Combe Martin St. John Ambulance serves Combe Martin, Berrynarbor, Kentisbury, Trentishoe, and portions of other parishes adjacent to these.

The Ilfracombe Ambulance serves Woolacombe, Mortehoe, and West Down.

The St. John Ambulance at Bideford covers the parishes of Instow, Westleigh and Eastleigh.

Braunton and the surrounding parishes are served by a St. John Ambulance stationed at Braunton.

There is an Ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital, Bideford, which serves the whole of the Barnstaple Rural Area, for the removal to hospital of cases of Infectious Diseases only.

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

The following tables give particulars of the Infectious Diseases notified during the year, together with the distribution of cases, and the age groups:—

Name of Disease.	No. Notified	No admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever -	15	13	—
Diphtheria -	2	2	—
Pneumonia -	12	0	5
Erysipelas -	3	0	—
Dysentry -	2	0	—
Malaria -	1	0	—
Paratyphoid -	7	6	—
Measles -	4	0	—
Whooping Cough	30	3	—
	76	24	5

Diphtheria Prophylexis.

The number of children immunized during 1946 was 1177, as follows:—

Under 5 years of age - -	176
Five to 14 years - - -	48
Reinforcement Doses - - -	953

The material used was A.P.T.

The Ministry of Health now considers that the protection conferred after a treatment lasts for five years, and advise a reinforcement dose every five years so as to protect the child during his school life.

Infectious Diseases—Age Periods.

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	16	17	18	19	20 and over	Total
Diphtheria -			1														1		2
Dysentery -							1											1	2
Erysipelas -														1				2	3
Malaria -																		1	1
Measles -		1	1		1													1	4
Paratyphoid -						1		1		1		1	1					2	7
Pneumonia -										1		1						10	12
Scarlet Fever						2	1	3		1	3	1	3			1			15
Whooping Cough	3	1	2	4	3	4	6	2	1		1				1			2	30
TOTALS -	3	2	4	4	4	7	8	6	1	3	4	3	4		1	1	1	19	76

Distribution of Infectious Diseases Cases Notified during 1946.

	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Para-typhoid B	Malaria	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Total
Arlington ...						1				1
Ashford ...						1	1			2
Atherington ...										
Berrynarbor ..		1					1			2
Bishop's Tawton ...			1			1		2		4
Bittadon ...										
Bratton Fleming ..					1					1
Braunton ..		1								1
Brendon ..										
Challacombe ..										
Combe Martin ..		1				1				2
Countisbury ..										
East Down ..										
Fremington ..	2	2			1	4				9
Georgeham ..										
Goodleigh ...										
Heanton Punchardon						1				1
High Bray ..										
Horwood ..	1									1
Instow ..		1								1
Kentisbury ..										
Landkey ..	3	4		1		1			1	10
Loxhore ..										
Martinhoe ..										
Marwood ..	14	2				4				20
Mortehoe			6			1	2		2	11
Newton Tracey .										
Parracombe ..										
Pilton West .										
Shirwell										
Stoke Rivers ..	4									4
Swimbridge .	6									6
Tawstock .										
Trentishoe ..										
West Down ..										
Westleigh .										
	30	12	7	1	2	15	4	2	3	76

Paratyphoid Fever.

An outbreak of Paratyphoid Fever occurred at Woolacombe during the months of June, July, and August. A special report was submitted to the Council, and a copy of this report was sent to the Ministry of Health.

Tuberculosis.

1. New Cases.

During the year 14 fresh cases of Tuberculosis were notified in accordance with the regulation.

2. Age Periods (new cases).

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year - -	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years - -	0	0	0	0
5 to 10 years - -	0	0	1	0
10 to 15 years - -	0	0	0	0
15 to 25 years - -	1	1	0	1
25 to 35 years - -	0	1	0	1
35 to 45 years - -	3	1	1	0
45 to 55 years - -	0	0	0	0
55 to 65 years - -	1	0	0	0
65 and over - -	0	0	0	0
Age unknown - -	0	0	1	0
Non-Civilians - -	1	0	0	0
	6	3	3	2

3. Organs Affected.

Lungs 9, Glands 3, Spine 1, Joints 1.

4. Distribution of Cases.

Mortehoe 3, Braunton 3, Parracombe 1, Combe Martin 1, Georgeham 1, Brendon 1, Goodleigh 1, Tawstock 1, Instow 1, Fremington 1.

5. Social Position.

School 3, Services 1, Retired 0, Businessman 1, Housewives 2, Shopkeeper 1, Retired Army Officer 1, Engineer 1, Farm Labourer 1, Domestic 1, Various 2.

6. Mortality from Tuberculosis.

During the year there were 7 deaths from Tuberculosis. The deaths occurred in the following Parishes :—Combe Martin 2, Brendon 1, Braunton 2, Fremington 1, Westleigh 1.

Age Periods (Deaths).

	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 - - -	0	0	0	0
5 - - -	0	0	0	0
15 - - -	1	1	0	0
25 - - -	0	0	0	0
35 - - -	0	0	0	0
45 - - -	2	0	0	0
55 - - -	2	0	0	0
65 and over - -	1	0	0	0
	6	1	0	0

Deaths (T.B.)

Corresponding figures since 1940 :—

1940, 12. 1941, 17. 1942, 11. 1943, 11. 1944, 11. 1945, 5. 1946, 7.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, ENGINEER, AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE,
September, 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Barnstaple Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my first Annual Report and Summary of work carried out during 1946.

General

The area of the Rural District is 129,346 acres, or roughly 200 square miles with an estimated population of 21,090. The rapid development taking place in the area, particularly around the coast, together with the mass of legislation now to be enforced, has intensified immensely the work in this Rural area.

Experiences gained during the War have given the public a broader outlook on local government administration, and a higher standard of amenities are continually being demanded. This is especially so with regard to:—

1. General Sanitation,
2. Housing.
3. Milk and other Food Supplies.

Furthermore, with the advent of holidays with pay increased numbers of people are visiting the district, and the Council must realise that catering for holiday makers is one of the major industries of this Area.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Parish.	Water Supplies	Sewerage.	Population. 1931 Census.	Population. Estimated Summer.
ARLINGTON.				
	No public scheme. Wells and gravitation supplies privately owned.	No public scheme. Drainage disposed of by septic tanks or soakway pits.	159	210
ASHFORD.				
	As above at present.	As above.	152	193
ATHERINGTON.				
	No public scheme. Council owns one pump and well.	As above.	443	524
BERRYNARBOR.				
	A small private supply has been purchased by the North Devon Water Board, but this scheme is inadequate for the village.	No public scheme. Several owners have combined to provide three combined schemes to privately owned disposal works.	561	1560
BISHOP'S TAWTON.				
	The village is served by 2 public supplies. (1) Barnstaple Water Co. (2) Parish Supply.	The village has a sewerage scheme with 2 outfalls, both being unsatisfactory.	827	993
BITTADON.				
	No public scheme. Wells, etc. privately owned.	No public scheme. Drainage disposed of by owners.	31	75
BRATTON FLEMING.				
	Served by a public supply.	Served by a public scheme.	442	659

Parish.	Water Supplies.	Sewerage.	Population. 1931 Census.	Population. Estimated Summer.
BRAUNTON.				
	Public Supplies in village from 2 reservoirs, augmented by supply from a borehole.	Public Scheme in village with outfall into tidal waters, which is unsatisfactory.	3019	6920
BRENDON.				
	No Public Supply. Wells, etc. privately owned. Springs now being gauged with a view to the provision of a Public Supply.	No public drainage scheme.	283	641
CHALLACOMBE.				
	No Public Supply. Wells etc. privately owned.	As above.	181	246
COMBE MARTIN.				
	Public pipe supply in village.	Public Scheme in village quite satisfactory.	1920	7500
COUNTISBURY.				
	Portion adjoining Lynmouth served by Lynton Water Co. satisfactory. Village supplied by wells; supply precarious in dry times.	Portion adjoining Lynmouth has a sewerage scheme, with Sea Outfall. Satisfactory.	317	515
EAST DOWN.				
	One public well. No public supply.	No sewerage scheme. Mainly pails.	249	312
FREMINGTON.				
	Fremington and Bickington Villages supplied by Barnstaple Water Co. Remainder by privately owned wells.	Consulting Engineers have the question of a comprehensive scheme for the Area.	1172	2300

Parish.	Water Supplies.	Sewerage.	Population 1931 Census.	Population Estimated Summer.
GEORGEHAM.		GEORGEHAM VILLAGE.		
	Piped water supply from Boode (Braunton). Borehole proposed.	Sewerage scheme with an unsatisfactory outfall. CROYDE VILLAGE. No Sewerage Scheme. Consulting Engineers are preparing Scheme.	834	3100
GOODLEIGH.				
	Supply obtained in Village from three Public Wells.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pails.	223	306
HEANTON PUNCHARDON.				
	Public Supply now being provided for by extending Braunton Mains.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pails.	369	401
HIGH BRAY.				
	No Public Supply.	Sewerage Scheme As above.	175	225
HORWOOD.				
	No Public Supply.	As above.	68	75
INSTOW.				
	Supplied by Barnstaple Water Co.	Sewerage Scheme with outfall in tidal river.	646	1630
KENTISBURY.				
	No Public Supply.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pails.	290	363
LANDKEY.				
	No Public Supply. Recent examination of water from private wells unsatisfactory. A pipe supply is necessary.	Portion of village served by Sewer, though one is required for the remainder.	558	674

Parish.	Water Supplies.	Sewerage.	Population. 1931 Census.	Population. Estimated Summer.
LOXHORE.				
	No Public Supply.	No Sewerage Scheme.	168	191
MARTINHOE.				
	As above.	As above.	175	326
MARWOOD.				
	Public supply now serving Muddiford and Milltown. Remainder of parish served by private wells. A small stand-pipe extension from an existing spring supply at Guineaford has been carried out by the North Devon Water Board.	As above. Mainly pail closets.	612	691
MORTEHOE.				
	Villages of Mortehoe and Woolacombe served by Ilfracombe Water Co.	Mortehoe is served by three outfalls to the sea. New holding tanks, sea outfall, and extensions at Woolacombe are now in hand.	1164	4700
NEWTON TRACEY.				
	No Public Supply.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pail closets.	110	126
PARRACOMBE.				
	Portion of village served by privately owned piped supply.	Sewerage Scheme required.	329	491
SHIRWELL.				
	One public well, others privately owned. Public Supply necessary.	No Sewerage Scheme. Mainly pail closets.	294	361
STOKE RIVERS.				
	One public well. Others privately owned.	As above.	154	169

Parish	Water Supplies.		Population 1931	Estimated Summer
SWIMBRIDGE.				
	Public Supply to 5 stand pipes. Supply should be extended when arrangements can be made to purchase from owners of water rights.	There is a sewerage scheme for the village.	961	1220
TAWSTOCK.				
	Existing. Portion adjoining Barnstaple Borough served by Barnstaple Water Co. There is also supply to villages by stand pipes.	*Hele Manor Portion.* Scheme has been prepared to provide sewer to connect to Fremington. *Jubilee Estate.* This estate has been sewered and is linked up with the Barnstaple Borough sewerage system.	819	1310
TRENTISHOE.				
	No Public Supply. Private wells only.	Pail closets.	60	150
WEST DOWN.				
	Public supply from Ilfracombe Water Co.'s mains.	There is a sewerage scheme for this village. Outfall, however, is very unsatisfactory.	473	850
WESTLEIGH.				
	Public and private wells. Not satisfactory. Public supply necessary.	There is a sewerage scheme with outfall in tidal river.	403	479
WEST PILTON.				
	No public supply at present.	No sewerage scheme. Mainly pail closets.	160	200

WATER.

BRENDON.

The Consulting Engineers are looking into the question of providing a new supply from the river.

HIGH BRAY.

The scheme being carried out by the South Molton Rural District Council will include four cottages, two farms, and the village school, all in the Barnstaple Rural District.

CHALLACOMBE.

Arrangements have been made with the Ilfracombe Urban District Council to construct filters at Friendship and lay a 6in. main from the filters to Kentisbury Ford and Berry Down with branch mains to Kentisbury and East Down, etc.

BERRYNARBOR.

A contract has been entered into for a comprehensive scheme for a supply of water from Ilfracombe, and it is hoped to commence this work shortly.

BISHOP'S TAWTON.

A small extension from this supply has been approved to take in four cottages.

COMBE MARTIN.

Extensive improvements have been made at the intakes, which have already proved highly beneficial, and it is hoped later to bring an additional supply via the Berrynarbor mains.

GEORGEHAM.

Tests are being undertaken to ascertain whether it will be possible to bring a supply from the Boode boreholes at Braunton to Georgeham, and if the tests are satisfactory a reservoir will be built at Georgeham and the necessary mains laid.

HEANTON PUNCHARDON.

A scheme has been approved for supplying this village, and the work has commenced.

SHIRWELL.

Enquiries are on foot for meeting the supply to this village, but so far the springs examined have not proved satisfactory.

SWIMBRIDGE.

A contract has been entered into for the extension of the mains in this village, but it is feared that legal difficulties may hold up the scheme indefinitely.

WEST DOWN.

An extension of the supply to Cheglinch will shortly be undertaken by the Board.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Consideration has been given during the year by the Borough and Rural Councils to the pollution of the River Taw. A joint report has been prepared for a comprehensive sewerage scheme by Messrs. Lemon and Blizzard, Consulting Engineers, Plymouth. Negotiations between the two Councils concerned and the Ministry of Health are now proceeding.

Public Cleansing.

The Council are now operating two Refuse Lorries, and two more are on order. This Department is now collecting refuse as follows :—

Parish.	Period.
Braunton	Weekly
Combe Martin	Weekly. Twice weekly during Summer months.
Fremington	Fortnightly
Georgeham and Croyde	Fortnightly during Summer months, otherwise Monthly
Berrynarbor	Fortnightly during Summer Months, otherwise Monthly
Tawstock (Sticklepath)	Fortnightly
Tawstock Village and Hamlets	Monthly
West Down	Monthly
Newton Tracey	Monthly
Horwood	Monthly
Ashford	Monthly
Parracombe	Monthly
Martinhoe	Monthly
Blackmoor Gate	Monthly
Kentisbury	Monthly
Bratton Fleming	Monthly
Heanton Punchardon	Monthly
Nethercott—Upcott—Lobb	Monthly
Goodleigh	Monthly
Boode and Winsham	Monthly
Little Silver, Whitehall, Middle Marwood, Milltown, Muddiford, Prixford, Guineaford, and Kingsheanton	Once every 3 Months.

Refuse is also collected during the Summer months from the Saunton Hotel and the N.A.L.G.O. Holiday Camp at Croyde. These collections are in addition to the normal Parish cellections, and are charged for as Trade Refuse.

Private Contractors collect the refuse in the undermentioned Parishes:—

Instow	Twice Weekly
Mortehoe	Twice Weekly
Bishop's Tawton	Fortnightly (Village), Quarterly (Hamlets)
Atherington	Monthly
Landkey and Swimbridge	Bi-Monthly
Westleigh	Bi-Monthly

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The total number of Inspections and Re-visits during the year was 5,713. Made up as follows:

Visits re Infectious Diseases	132
Meat Regulations (including visits to Fishmongers and Service Canteens)	327
Number of Drains Tested and Inspected	345
Inspections under the Petroleum Acts	35
Building Licence Inspections under the Control of Civil Building Defence Regulation 56A	2311
Inspections required by the Ministry of Food re Catering Establishments	74
Inspections of Dairies and Cowsheds	410
Public Cleansing	85
Sewers	235
New Drains	85
Ice Cream Premises	45
Piggeries	7
Visits to Refuse Tips	37
Bakehouses	13
Rodent Control	204
Housing Repairs, etc.	233
Camping Sites	22
Public Health Inspections, Nuisances, etc.	97
Factories, Workshops, and Shops	23
Offensive Trades	6
Water Supplies	167
Inspection of Schools	10
Inspections, Surveys, and Interviews in connection with the Council's New Housing Programme	703
Visits and Enquiries re Paratyphoid at Woolacombe	107

Number of Complaints received during the year -	64
Nuisances reported to the Council - -	15

Total Notices Served (as under).

Town and Country Planning (Interim Development) Act, 1943 - - . - -	3

Shops Act, 1934.

Provision of Sanitary Accommodation in several shops has been enforced during the year.

Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary during the year under review.

Swimming Pools and Baths.

The one Swimming Pool in this district is situated on the sea shore in Berrynarbor Parish and is privately owned. Conditions are always satisfactory since the pool is covered by every tide.

Premises and Occupations Controlled by Bye Laws.

Bye-Laws are in operation for the control of Offensive Trades. There are two in this district, viz :

1. The Tannery at Swimbridge.
2. Gut Scraping premises at Pilton West.

There is no need for regulations in this area in respect of underground sleeping rooms.

Bye-laws are in force relating to Tents, Vans and Sheds.

INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year the following articles of Food were voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption :—

Evaporated Milk -	99 tins	Tomatoes - -	4 tins
Dried Milk -	75 ,,	Plums - -	7 ,,
Stewed Steak -	5 ,,	Jam - -	5 ,,
Peas - -	14 ,,	Beetroot - -	1 ,,
Carrots - -	3 ,,	Salmon - -	16 ,,
Syrup - -	2 ,,	Pilchards - -	22 ,,
Luncheon Meat -	7 ,,	Sprats - -	10 ,,
Vegetable Soup -	3 ,,	Herrings - -	10 ,,
M & V Ration -	18 ,,	Sardines - -	19 ,,

Mackerel - -	2 tins	Biscuits - -	8 lbs.
Hake - -	7 stone	Bacon - -	18 ,,
Herrings - -	6 stone	Chocolate - -	16 ,,
Haddock - -	1 ,,	Flour - -	6 stone
Skate - -	2 ,,	Butter - -	13½ lbs.
Corned Beef -	126 lbs.	Dried Egg -	11 ,,
Sultanas - -	30 ,,	Tongue - -	6 ,,
Oatmeal - -	30 ,,		

Beef - -	78 lbs.	on account of Bone Taint.
Mutton - -	77 lbs.	,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

Details of Registered Dairies and Producers of Milk in the Rural District.

Retail Purveyors of Milk - -	270
Wholesale Traders and Producers of Milk	499
Farms and other Buildings used as Dairies	772
Total Registered Premises -	1541

No. of "Accredited" Producers -	22
No. of "Tuberculin Tested" Producers -	26
No. of "Tuberculin Tested" Bottling Establishments - - - -	2

The sampling of designated milks is now carried out by Sampling Officers of the County Medical Department.

Retail methods in a great many instances are not satisfactory. I refer to a very large number of retailers carrying their cans on the luggage grids, or at the rear of the cars, with the taps immediately over the exhausts. The result is that dust, mud and exhaust fumes get into the taps, and are washed into the consumers' jugs when milk is being delivered.

Retailers are advised that this is a bad practice, and in all instances to date changes have been made which resulted in delivery taps being enclosed and protected.

BUILDING SURVEYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

THE RED HOUSE,
CASTLE STREET,
BARNSTAPLE.

Staff.

Assistant Licensing Officer	- -	Mr. W. Pope.
Assistant Architect	- -	Mr. C. D. Squire.

To the Chairman and Members of the
BARNSTAPLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present the following Report illustrating the activity of the Building Surveyor's Department during the year 1946.

During the year 1946 the amount of work carried out by this Department has increased tremendously owing to the following :—

(*a*) The increase in the number of applications for Building Licences, and the number of inspections asked for by the Ministry of Works.

(*b*) The introduction in April of a priority system for building materials (W.B.A. Priority).

(*c*) The Post-war Housing Programme.

Enumerated below are particulars of building licensing during 1946 :—

Housing Repairs.

No. of licences granted - -	597
Total cost - - - -	£28,789

Other Work.

No. of licences granted - -	221
Total cost - - - -	£11,493

Re-instatement.

No. of licences granted - -	28
Total cost - - - -	£7,846

Conversions.

No. of licences granted - -	28
No. of family units provided -	61
Total cost - - - -	£15,204

New Dwellings.

No of licences granted - -	36
Total cost - - - -	£39,213

The number of plans submitted during the year for approval under Bye-laws and Regional Planning was 191, of which 180 were approved and 11 disapproved.

The total number of Private Houses completed during the year was 34.

Braunton - -	3
Combe Martin - -	3
Fremington - -	25
Ashford - -	1
West Down - -	1
East Down - -	1
	34

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.

The last two schemes for reconditioning under the above Acts were completed during the year.

POST-WAR HOUSING SCHEME.

Position at 31st December, 1946.

Houses Completed.

Combe Martin - -	4
Blackmoor Gate - -	2
Fremington - -	2

Houses in Course of Erection or Proposed to be commenced forthwith.

Braunton - -	24
Berrynarbor - -	4
Prixford - - -	4
Fremington - -	14
Heanton - - -	8
Woolacombe - -	14
Landkey - - -	4
Instow - - -	6
West Down - -	8
Atherington - -	4
Bratton Fleming - -	4
Martinhoe - -	2
Parracombe - -	4

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR J. DENNIS.